Application No.: 10/687,529 Docket No.: 33637/US

Response to Office Action of December 22, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS** 

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application.

**Listing of Claims:** 

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) An immersion sensor for measuring the concentration of at least one analyte

with the aid of an oxidase, wherein said immersion sensor comprises said oxidase in an enzyme

region covered by an analyte-impermeable material and connected to the surface of the sensor

via at least one channel which contains water and is permeable to the analyte, but due to its

geometry limits diffusion.

17. (Original) The immersion sensor as set forth in claim 16, wherein the enzyme region

contains water.

18. (Currently Amended) The immersion sensor as set forth in claim 16 17, wherein the at

least one channel comprises an at least one diffusion-limiting channel and leads through

impermeable material of the immersion sensor.

19. (Currently Amended) The immersion sensor as set forth in claim 17, wherein said at

least one diffusion-limiting channel is filled, on or near the surface of the sensor, with a porous

substance which is impermeable to proteins.

20. (Original) The immersion sensor as set forth in claim 17, wherein on the surface of the

sensor, the channel passes into a protein-impermeable, hydrophilic layer and/or the channel

cross-section is larger than in the diffusion-limiting part.

21-23. (Canceled)

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24. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein the sensor is configured such that the analyte diffuses into the enzyme region.

25. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein the enzyme region is an enzyme layer.

26. (New) The sensor according to claim 25, wherein the enzyme layer is covered on at least one side by a thin, analyte-impermeable, oxygen-permeable membrane having no analyte

window.

27. (New) The sensor according to claim 26, wherein in an area limiting flow, a length of the

channel exceeds a thickness of the membrane.

28. (New) The sensor according to claim 26, wherein the enzyme layer borders an inner gas

space of the sensor from within.

29. (New) The sensor according to claim 28, wherein the inner gas space is connected to an

oxygen reservoir.

30. (New) The sensor according to claim 28, wherein a thin oxygen-permeable membrane is

situated between the enzyme layer and the inner gas space.

31. (New) The sensor according to claim 28, wherein the enzyme layer is bound onto or into

a swollen, porous, hydrophilic wall of a hollow fiber with a gas-filled lumen.

32. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein the channel forms the only way of

transporting analyte to the enzyme.

33. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein a diffusion resistance of the analyte is

determined by a ration of a length of the diffusion path and a cross-section of the diffusion path.

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34. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein a length of the channel is between 0.1 mm and 1 mm.

35. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein an increased effective cross-section of the channel on a surface of the sensor leads to a leveling out of outer concentration gradients thereby reducing the effect of outer deposits on diffusion flow.

- 36. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein the channel passes into a hydrophilic, porous and protein-excluding layer.
- 37. (New) The sensor according to claim 16, wherein the channel leads through a water-impermeable material and at a surface of the sensor is filled with a defined hydrophilic porous substance.

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